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An Armed People Is Always a Free People

By Victor L. Berger.

APITALIST papers all over the country have attacked me with great bitterness, because of my article two weeks ago asking Socialists and workingmen in general to prepare to fight for freedom and to be ready to back up their ballots with bullets, if necessary.

The usual howl of "anarchist" was raised by men who know no more about economic and political terms than a donkey knows of Latin grammar.

What I wrote in that article I had written in this paper before. I have also said it in numerous conventions of the American Federation of Labor.

And I have always said it in the interest of peace, justice and order, and because I want to make peaceful progress possible.

I repeat: A revolution can never be "made"; neither by one man, even if he were the most powerful genius, nor by a few thousand men, even if they were ever so fanatical.

We have examples of this in history.

Although the Catholic church in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth centuries was in pressing need of a "reform of head and members," as the holy church councils so often complained, yet the talented Cola Rienzi, after a brief season of triumph, was burned in Rome at the stake in the public market-place, amid the rejoicings of the people.

Although the French especially were quite convinced of the necessity of a reformation, it was just in France that the Albigenses were persecuted and rooted out with bloody severity;

So it was in other countries.

But when the time was ripe, there arose a rough and burly monk, a man who was neither a statesman nor a scholar. And this reckless genius, Martin Luther, carried through successfully what many other and some greater men before him had attempted in vain.

The minds of men had been prepared for the revolution.

So it is with every revolution. It is always dependent upon the development of conditions. The revolution is only the seal on a preceding evolution in men's minds.

And it may require many so-called "revolutions" to carry out one single but thorough reform successfully.

In my opinion, those who would advise street riots and insurrections would be guilty of a crime against the laboring class, especially in view of the perfection of modern instruments of murder and the helpless condition of the workers.

An appeal to arms without having any arms is more than foolish—it is criminal.

As anybody who is at all acquainted with me knows, I am most decidedly in favor of the ballot and a propaganda of education.

We must have a great many ballots and a great deal of education.

However, we must not forget that all nations which have bettered existing conditions have been combatants; that is, they have been armed.

Such was decidedly the case in the time of the Reformation and during the English revolution.

In France, indeed, the people were poorly armed at first, till they plundered the state arsenal on the morning of July 14, 1789, and took 28,000 guns and cartridges. But, in the first place, the French aristocracy was perfectly rotten and no longer capable of resistance, and secondly, the regular French troops fraternized with the people from the very beginning of the revolution.

Moreover, history teaches us that an armed people has always been a free people. There has never been a plainer example of this than the case of the Boers in South Africa.

Tyrants and usurpers, therefore, have always taken care to disarm the people. And the English did the same thing in South Africa in subduing what was left of the 30,000 peaceable Dutch farmers—a little armed nation that had learned how to shoot straight.

Whenever one nation or one class comes under the yoke of another, the conquered nation or conquered class is always disarmed, and rendered non-combatant.

The founders of our constitution well understood and considered all this, and therefore inserted the following clause in the constitution of the United States:

"A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."—Amendment II, Article II.

This clause was placed in the constitution expressly for the purpose of giving the people an opportunity to defend their freedom.

In the debate upon this clause it was insisted that such a right must be reserved for the people to guard them eventually against usurpers in our country.

It goes without saying that the founders of this republic never even dreamed of such a militia as ours is today—the arming of fools and scamps to hold in check the great mass of the people for the benefit of a few money bags.

In those days (1783-89) there was no more a plutocracy than a proletariat in this country. Conditions were then entirely different.

But, although the fathers of our republic took such pains to create a "nation in arms," yet today there is scarcely any other folk in the world (except probably the Chinese or Russians) so completely disarmed, so totally without weapons, as the mass of the American workmen.

In Germany and France almost every man is a soldier, almost every man is thus at one time of his life an armed man.

This imprints a certain stamp on the people.

However severely militarism should be condemned, it has at least this one good side, that besides discipline it gives the man a certain self-confidence and teaches him the use of a gun.

To those who are afraid to trust the people with firearms the example of Switzerland proves most clearly that a general arming of the people would by no means result in a "revolution."

In Switzerland every citizen is a soldier and owns his own weapon and keeps it at home. The government teaches the people the use of arms for reasons of state.

And although the Swiss workmen are by no means better situated materially than their American brothers, and although the Swiss bourgeoisie sometimes carries on regular baiting against labor agitators, we hear nothing of revolutions or dangerous insurrections in Switzerland.

There is a great deal less rioting in Switzerland than either in America or in Russia, where the people are totally disarmed.

On the contrary, if the social question is settled in any country without spilling a drop of blood, that country will be Switzerland.

There can be no question that the general disarming of our people has contributed very considerably to their enslavement.

We are obliged to fear our "government" far more than the Montenegrins, Arabs and other half-barbarous races fear theirs.

And yet, in accordance with progress, our higher civilization, our higher culture, ought to make us only so much the freer.

Our ruling class, indeed, knows better how to value the advantage of arms.

Not only are barracks erected in the neighborhood of all the large cities, not only is the militia limited to a comparatively few regiments,

There are Americans who claim that while public ownership might be all right in other countries, it would never do in this, because here we would have too much stealing.

Is that a good argument?

Aside from the fact that stealing is now going on everywhere in private business and in public life because people are made corrupt by necessity and by the insecurity of our economic conditions, which compel even the rich to steal—can it be that the American people have become so dishonest in their nature that they dare not trust themselves to do their own business?

If that is true, then the time has come when we must give the scepter of civilization to another race.

Nothing shows more the utter decadence of our middle class than the frantic methods by which they try to "make business" artificially when there is none.

It is for that purpose mainly that fairs, carnivals, jahrmarkts, homecomings, and other similar great

recruited from the "better" class, instead of arming all the people, as in Switzerland—but even in church and school the middle class and their children are taught to hate and abhor the so-called "dangerous classes."

This is called teaching "patriotism."

No, we surely want no Russian kind of a revolution. Nor do we want a repetition of the French revolution if it can possibly be avoided.

However, human nature is so constituted that in the struggle for existence—in the class struggle—people only respect what they fear.

This law holds just as good today as it did a thousand years ago.

The Swiss workingmen are respected by the Swiss capitalist class because they are combatants besides having the ballot.

The American workingmen are despised and scorned, although having the ballot, because they are non-combatants.

Therefore, in the interest of peace and harmony—in the interest of peaceful progress—in the interest of the future greatness of this nation—I want to see the Swiss system or any other orderly method of a general arming of the people adopted.

If that is not done we will have the French and Russian kind of revolution. Then I have great fears for our civilization.

It may soon come to an untimely end either by the action of the plutocracy or through an ochlocracy (mob rule).

Let us learn from history.

affairs are arranged. And it is rather amusing to see how the majority of these middle class business men get left every time, as far as the money-making part is concerned—and how the monopolists get almost the entire financial benefit.

Milwaukee, with its large class of cockroach business men, furnishes a characteristic example. They have tried everything here to "make business" in summer. The last effort was a home-coming.

Now of course an affair of this kind is ridiculous for a large city. Capitalists and members of the upper middle class can "come home" at any time, but the so-called homecoming would be the very last time they would naturally select. And the proletarians who have no money cannot come home even if they would, and as a rule they have no home to come to.

So the affair was virtually a Saatnalia for Milwaukeeans who came home very late at night, or rather very early in the

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plutocracy or through an ochlocracy (mob rule).

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Well! Well! Well! What's the matter? A whole week and not a single subscription to the stock of the People's Realty Company. This is the first time this has occurred since the building project was started. What's the matter? Is it the hot weather? The dog days? Surely, the fault cannot lie with the intrinsic value of the investment. There is none safer and sounder to be found anywhere on the face of the globe. As there are about thirteen of the fifteen thousand dollars already subscribed, why not end the matter with a whirlwind finish? Let us tell the principal features about this new building.

The lot is fifty feet wide on Chestnut street, and one hundred and fifty feet long on Sixth street. Chestnut street is one of the main thoroughfares in Milwaukee. It is especially valuable to us, because by means of short cuts afforded by streets running diagonally, tens of thousands of workingmen and women use it daily. So it is a sort of a "working people's runway." There are a lot of business houses situated on the street, chief amongst which is the main office and plant of the world's greatest brewery, the Pabst Brewing Company. This is only three and one-half blocks distant. Sixth street, on the side, is the longest street in Milwaukee. Direct cars run on both streets. On Sixth street the Milwaukee Northern Railway Company also operates the Sheboygan Interurban Line. This line connects with the Chicago-Milwaukee Electric Line. Traffic on the latter is very heavy, and it is reported that their heavy interurban trains, consisting often of three or more cars, will soon be run every thirty minutes. This company now runs about forty trains a day to and from Chicago. The Milwaukee street car company contemplates running interurban cars on Chestnut street to Oconomowoc and Watertown soon. In addition to all this, the site is situated only two or three blocks from the proposed Metropolitan Civic Center. The moment this idea is carried into effect it will no doubt nearly double the value of our lot. Another thing must not be forgotten, the street car center of Milwaukee lies only two or three minutes' ride from our corner. It is accessible for one fare, direct, or by transfer, on all street car lines now operating in Milwaukee. All who have any knowledge of real estate in Milwaukee agree that it is one of the most valuable corners in the city. That this is true is already proven by the fact that since we purchased it we have already received an offer to sell it at an advance of five

hundred dollars over what we paid. In fact, the lot adjoining ours on the east has only twenty feet frontage, with a small, old, three-story building, for which the owner asks \$14,000. We paid \$250 per front foot, this man asks \$700 per front foot. Did we buy cheap? We will let our readers answer. It is therefore safe to make the statement that the real estate value will double in a few years.

The building to be erected on it is to contain three stories and a good, high basement, and is to be built of concrete and brick. It is to be modern and fireproof. Such a building is estimated to cost about \$35,000 to \$38,000. With the price of the lot, it will bring the cost of the total improvement up to about \$50,000.

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The Prayer of the Tenement

"Breath—breath—give me breath." A Yiddish whisper on a night in April, 1903, from the heart of the New York Ghetto.

"At 18 Clinton street, back in the rear tenement, a young Roumanian Jew lay dying of consumption. I had come in with a Jewish doctor. With every breath I felt the heavy, foul odor from poverty, ignorance, filth, disease. In this room ten feet square, six people lay on the floor, packed close, rubbing the heavy sleep from tired eyes and staying at its drowsy. Two small windows gave them air, from a noiseless court—a pit twenty feet across and five floors deep. The other room was only a closet six by seven, with a grated window high up opening on an air shaft eighteen inches wide. And in that closet more were sleeping, three on a bed, one in a cradle.

"Breath—breath—give me breath." The man's disease was infection; and yet, for two long weeks he had lain there dying. From his soiled bed he could touch the one table where the two families ate; the cooking stove was but six feet from him; the cupboard over his pillow; he could even reach one of the cradles, where his baby girl lay staring at his strange position. For his wasted body was too feeble to rise; too choked, too tortured to lie down. His young wife held him up while the sleepers stared silently on, and that Yiddish whisper came over and over again, but now with a new and more frightened meaning. "Breath—breath—breath. Or kill me; oh, kill me!"

"Two years ago this man had come to America—one of the four hundred and eighty-eight thousand in 1901. He came young and well and hopeful with his wife, and their baby son. Two more had been born since then. It was to be a new country, a new home, a fresh start, a land to breathe in. 'Breath—breath—give me breath.' He had breathed no air here but the close, heavy air of the sweatshop from six in the morning until ten at night. Sometimes he whispered—he worked on until eleven. He was not alone. In New York today and tonight are over fifty thousand like him, working. And late in the night, when he left the feverish labor, at the hour when other

"We Know Our Friends by Their Deeds"

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On printed matter is a guarantee that the work was done under safe conditions.



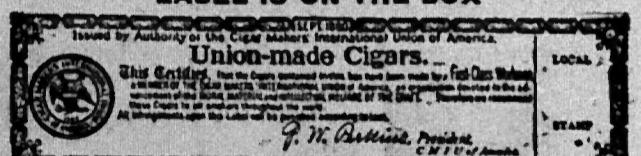
Printing without this label receives scant consideration from workmen.

CAN BE FURNISHED UPON APPLICATION, WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE

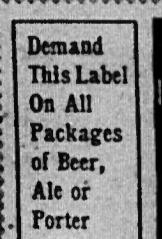
ALWAYS DEMAND Union Labeled Bread



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All shoes without the UNION STAMP are always non-union. Do not accept any excuse for absence of Union Stamp.

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CHARLES L. BAINE, President

CHARLES L. BAINE, Secretary-Treasurer

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JOHN F. TORIN,

A Confession

HE characteristic of American life and American civilization is equality of opportunity, and perhaps the great evils that exist today are those which arise from a generation that has made impossible in many cases, that equality of opportunity which is the fundamental ideal of our republic. When the individual workman stood on his own feet, with his own tools, and had to combat only with other individuals, he had a free field, and he could hope for any accomplishment to which his strong arm and his sound mind could entitle him. Today he finds himself confronted with a corps of individuals, strongly organized, possessed of accumulated wealth, and directed by agents of absentee owners. The evil that has arisen has come from just that. You, as a stockholder in a corporation, are quite ignorant of the conditions that affect the lives and welfare of the individual operatives, and yet some day you will wake up with a feeling of great disgust to find that your operatives have declared war on you and that there is a cessation of industrial progress.

"We saw this snowball of wealth that rolled up in the hands of one or two men wielding tremendous power. Individuals were absolutely powerless, and they began to found their plans and set in motion the greatest of all snowballs—the Government of the United States. Then began legislation in an effort

to deal with these problems. Here and there throughout the land generous women, intelligent men, considerate people began to look at this problem, to study it and see what this was.

"We, all men and women alike, are desirous of promoting the welfare of our fellow beings, providing it does not occasion us too much discomfort. And here and there some select souls are willing, at the expense of discomfort, to promote the welfare of others.

"We began to see that the basis of preserving that which we had enjoyed—the price we had to pay for the luxuries which we enjoyed—was that we should, somehow or other, subdue the feeling in the minds of so many throughout the land that they were being dealt with unjustly; and we had gradually to bring to the minds of the wage-workers, the day laborers, the most humble folk, the sense that they had fair play.

"Now, THAT IS WELFARE WORK.

It is dealing fairly with those people; securing to them that equality of opportunity which industrial progress has taken away; restoring conditions under which men and women may lead self-respecting lives.

"It is a disgrace to us if we enjoy our luxurious homes, our comfortable libraries and our mode of living, when the people who work for us haven't a decent place in which to eat a meal or a decent place in which to earn their day's wage."—U. S. Atty. Gen. Wickersham, in *Civic Federation Review*.

Good Capitalist, Bad Landlord

The *Chicago Public*, the well-known single tax paper, quotes a dispatch from Berlin regarding a proposition laid before the Reichstag to tax the unearned increment in real estate values. The government has decided that it is inexpedient to do this for imperial purposes, inasmuch as there are seemingly insurmountable difficulties in the way of an equitable adjustment of the taxes on city and country values but it approves as just the taxing of the unearned increment for local purposes, as is now being done in many municipalities. If the single tax is in operation in "many municipalities," that system contrary to the claims of its advocates, has not solved the labor problem or in any way materially changed the condition of the workers, as the German labor press shows that the poverty and suffering of the working people has been more intense and widespread dur-

ing the past year than at any time during the present generation. The truth of the matter is that the single tax will prove non-effective until a revolutionary working class conquers the powers of government and enforces it, as Marx and Engels contemplated. The George idea of trusting to bourgeoisie reformers, to forget their class instinct and honestly introduce a scheme to abolish their own graft is an unnatural and absurd notion. The tangle sixers have fooled themselves so persistently with their good-capitalist, bad-landlord hair-splitting that they can't understand that a leopard doesn't change his spots.—*Cleveland Citizen*.

These Be Our Masters

They own us, these task-masters of ours; they own our homes; they own your legislators. We cannot escape from them. There is no redress. We are told that we can defeat them at the ballot-box. They own the ballot-box. We are told that we must look to the courts for redress; they own the courts. We know them for what they are—ruffians in politics, ruffians in finance, ruffians in law, ruffians in trade, ruffians, swindlers and tricksters. No outrage too great to daunt them, no petty larceny too small to shame them; despoiling a government treasury of a million dollars, yet picking the pockets of a farmhand of the price of a loaf of bread. They swindle a nation of a hundred million, and call it finance; they levy a blackmail, and call it commerce; they corrupt a legislature; they bribe an it politics; they bribe

a judge, and call it law; they hire blacklegs to carry out their plans, and call it organization; they prostitute the honor of a state, and call it competition.—Frank Norris, in *The Octopus*.

The "Third Degree"

Philadelphia *Public Ledger* (Ind.): There has grown up in this country a method of procedure in the treatment of suspects and prisoners which outrage every sense of justice and decency. The application of the so-called "third degree" reduces to a hideous mockery the legal assumption—that every man is assumed to be innocent until he shall be proven guilty—upon which the criminal practice of this country is based, and puts the American police and their practices upon a level with those of Russia. . . . Until the system shall be totally banished from American criminal procedure all American talk about humanity and civilization in the treatment of crime and criminals will be but hypocrisy and sham.

No wonder Chinese statesmen

are reported to have been deeply impressed with the significance of this appointment. No wonder the representatives of the European powers in Pekin are reported to be curious regarding the next American move in China. Coming so closely upon the heels of the American notification to Great Britain, France and Germany that American financiers must be given their full share in the loan of \$27,500,000 for the Hankow-Sze-chuen railway, the appointment of a business man to the Chinese post can have but one meaning.

It means that the American capitalist class is determined to obtain its full share of the Chinese trade, of Chinese loans, and of investments in China. It means that our government is resolved to lend the entire weight of its authority to the demands of our merchants and financiers for an equal share in the spoils of the East.—N. Y. Call.

Prof. John Graham Brooks, the well-known sociological worker, says: "An economist who has done some lively tilting against the Socialists has said that if he were to dine six successive nights with judges, business men, bankers and clever women of his city and listen to the conventional arguments meant to annihilate Socialism, it would drive from sheer weariness into the ranks of Socialists."—Ex-

Empties

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FREDERIC HEATH VICTOR BERGER

Editor Associate

"The Herald is Not Responsible for Opinions
of its Contributors."Official Paper of the Federated Trades Council
of Milwaukee and the Wisconsin State Fed-
eration of Labor.

Entered at the Milwaukee Post Office as Second-Class Mailer, August 20, 1901.

The Belmont letter, addressed to capitalists of the Civic Federation, soliciting subscriptions, is reflected in the July issue of the *Civic Federation Review*. The single purpose of the organization and publication seems to be an assault on Socialism.

Hooray! Says a gloating newspaper item: "Last year the European olive crop failed. The devout Moslems of Turkey and Asia Minor would not eat butter or lard. There was no olive oil to be had. They bought cotton seed oil by the ship load. Now they like it better than olive oil. The failure of the olive crop was a good thing for America!" Hooray, but—speculators in food declare that cotton seed oil irritates the alimentary tract and that it is not a good food. Also, there are laws against using it to adulterate olive oil. But what do we care for the Moslems or their health—under capitalism we are not our brothers' keepers. Business forbids.

For years and years the French people have been set down as naughty, and fears have been expressed by novelists that the people in this country might grow to be like the French in their home and social relations. In recent years we have been getting a clearer view, and this has led to the discovery that the naughty part of France is simply an institution patronized and alone made possible by the tourists, a large fraction of them being Americans—just as the virtuous American merchant who annually goes to New York to buy goods and to "see the sights" makes possible the "tenderloin" district of the metropolis! And here comes a writer in the staid, literary and conservative *Atlantic Monthly* who says of the private life of France that, "Nowhere is home life richer, fuller, more wholesome, more replete with beautiful, unabashed expressions of mutual respect and affection; nowhere does the individual enjoy a more genuine material well-being and nowhere is he guided by a saner and sunnier philosophy."

We venture to say that if capitalism in this country keeps on getting possession of our morals as it has in recent years, the people of France will yet turn the tables on us and sound warnings against Yankee depravity.

Capitalism and Degeneracy

Blackpool, as the seaside resort of the factory population of Lancashire, Yorkshire and Warwick-

shire, presents interesting features. The place, which has a permanent population of 60,000, is visited by 3,000,000 holiday seekers annually, chiefly from June to September. All of its constructive work is substantial. The houses are of brick; the streets are paved with asphalt; the esplanade, which varies from 200 to 200 feet in width, runs 4½ miles along the shore, on a bluff thirty to fifty feet higher than the beach. Promenaders, often in great crowds, are to be seen at all hours until after midnight. In the evening the scenes are brilliant with electric light.

It is the custom for the "hands" of the mills in the textile industry to contribute a small sum weekly to a common fund for the "wakes," as they call their vacation session.

Several peculiarities in the Blackpool crowds were striking. As compared with our Coney Island crowds, they were quiet, slow, unanimated. Perhaps 70 per cent or 80 per cent were young people—very young people. Boys from 16 to 20 years of age were paired off walking with girls who were still younger. This was quite general. Collectively, they were the smallest people in stature I have ever seen in an English speaking community. Not only was the average height hardly more than five feet; but narrow, bony shoulders, span-width chests, and spindly legs were the rule. A London newspaper man, who walked about with me, and who was making his first visit to Blackpool, was as much struck with the diminutive size of the promenaders as I was. "Nothing like it, even in London, so indicative of physical degeneracy," he remarked. "How flat chested these girls are; what a slovenly gait the boys have! I venture they don't weigh one hundred pounds apiece!" Some of the young men who were in volunteer khaki were decidedly lacking in smartness. They might have been wearing the cast-off uniforms of the boys of the military academies of the grammar school grade. What is the explanation of the stunting of a portion of the English race? One of the little fellows himself made this explanation to me: "The sins of the father are visited on the child. Before the days of the protective factory laws, the children were put to work in the mills at eight years of age—yes, even at six years of age—and they were compelled to work twelve hours a day. In manhood they get these youngsters, who themselves often go to work too young."

—Samuel Gompers' Letter from England.

Half Hours in the Herald Sanctum

Correspondents are urged to write as briefly as possible and on one side of the paper only

We are not responsible for views of our correspondents

BISHOP CREEK AT 30 CENTS
(TO THE EDITOR)

Gaylord Wilshire, the alleged Social editor, is still engaged in stock jobbing schemes, selling mining stock and reorganizing his many companies with the result that the stock of the "Greatest Gold Mine in the World" is quoted at the infinitesimal price of 10 cents, with few lambs in sight.

Wilshire continues to keep up his bluff regarding development at the

mine, but the expenditures for development don't show that Wilshire has parted with much of the money the comrades sent to him to place the mine on a paying basis. Comrades have sent Wilshire within three years more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000), with the understanding and belief that the money was to be used to sink shafts, get out the ore, etc. Wilshire's latest report shows that not much more than \$100,000 has been spent at Bishop in the interest of the stockholders.

What has become of the balance—\$900,000 or more?

Where are the dividends Wilshire promised that would be ready not later than October, 1908?

Wilshire repeatedly said that \$100, \$200 and \$300 a share—the prices comrades paid "for Bishop Creek stock"—would unquestionably before long be worth \$50 a share." These claims Wilshire made two years ago when the lambs were frantic in their efforts to buy Bishop Creek stock. As this stock can now be bought for 10 cents a share and less, what explanation has Wilshire to offer?

The only persons who have profited by the stock jobbing of the alleged editor are Wilshire, Hassan & Stoval, and Fred R. Jones and Fred J. Mowry, the two latter being New York curb brokers. The king bee of the beneficiaries, however, is Wilshire, and he is still thirsting for more from those who are willing to go into the scheme.

The following is a sample of the reports sent out by the stock brokers with Wilshire's approval, as he is listing stocks with them, it is said, through the avenue of some of his

friends. This is from a Wall street paper called "The Trader," dated July 14:

"Bishop Creek Gold Mines.

"This stock continues weak, but large blocks are changing hands around 30 cents to 40 cents per share. We consider Bishop Creek a good buy at present figures and advise averaging down on stock bought at higher figures. We will soon be in a position to render a report on this property that will be very interesting. In the meantime pick up what stock you can at low prices. We will send special report on request."

Here is the report the Wall street "wolves" promised:

"Special Report on Bishop Creek Gold Mines."

"Bishop, Calif., July 10, 1909.—For

the purpose of pushing more rapidly the development work at the BISHOP CREEK GOLD MINE and of avoiding any further difficulty with water in the shaft, a contract has been let by the BISHOP CREEK MILLING CO. for a complete new power equipment.

"The new equipment will effectually do away with any difficulty with water in the shaft. The water this year, which has been so excessive on account of the unusual fall of snow in the mountains last WINTER, compelled a brief suspension of work this spring because their sad experience to comfort them.

Wilshire, two years ago, when I wrote a few truths about him, threatened to cause my arrest on a charge of criminal libel. I plainly told both him and his lawyer to get busy, but nothing was done.

I warned comrades two years ago

that the Bishop Creek gold mining

scheme was being constructed on a plan of which only such men as John W. Gates should be proud.

I told comrades then that shares

for which Wilshire had the effrontery to accept \$1.00, \$2.50 and \$4.00 each would go down to practically the worthless point, and I repeat the statement today.

Isn't it about time that the com-

rades who put up their hard earned

coin, to the extent of \$1,000,000 and

more, insist that Mr. Wilshire explain what has become of the money?

Wilshire's report shows that it is not in the treasury. Then, where is it?

Wilshire says he knows, but declares it is nobody's business but his own.

What do the comrades say who sent

in their money to Wilshire—sent it

in, mind you, for only one purpose,

to develop the mine at Bishop Creek?

HENRY T. JONES.

New York, Aug. 4.

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Politics and the Working Class

Written for the HERALD by William Restelle Shier

OU say, my friend, that you are not interested in politics.

But you are interested in wages, are you not? And in hours of labor? And in the conditions under which you work and live?

I take it that you want security of employment, schooling for your children, a nice home in which to live, leisure in which to enjoy life and the equivalent of what your labor produces.

It is also of some importance to you what laws you are compelled to obey. How your conduct is regulated by governmental decrees and what position you occupy in society, whether it be that of the despised menial or that of a respected citizen.

Now, you ask, what has all this got to do with politics?

Everything.

It is in the power of governments to regulate wages, to determine what the hours of labor shall be, to enforce healthy conditions in the mines and shops and factories.

It is in the power of governments to insure every man and woman congenial and remunerative employment, to abolish child labor and to drive poverty out of the land.

It is in the power of governments to take care of the aged, to give every child a fair start in life, to encourage industry, to diminish disease, to promote the arts and sciences, to protect the weak against

the strong, to make life worth while for everybody.

And it is also in the power of governments, mark you, to do exactly the contrary.

If government can be made an instrument of good, it can also be made an instrument of evil, which most nations know to their sorrow.

Now, my friend, government is not something apart from the people. It is not something in which they have little or no concern. It is something which arises out of themselves, which is determined by themselves, and which in turn determines their relations to themselves and to each other. It is something which enters into your everyday life and which contributes to or mars your happiness.

It is exceedingly important, therefore, that you make your influence felt in politics. If you do not look after your own interests, nobody else will.

As a workingman, you want the government to advance working class interests. But is it doing this today? No! It is doing just the contrary. It is helping the masters to keep their workpeople in subjection, to cripple trade unions and to intensify the exploitation of the masses.

Governments today are controlled by business men in the interests of business men, just as in the past they were controlled by ecclesiastical orders, controlled aristocracy and military castes in THEIR respective interests, and not in the interests of the people as

a whole.

It is high time, my friend, that you should realize the class character of government. As long as there are classes in society, there will be class antagonisms, and as long as there are class antagonisms we simply cannot have "government of the people, by the people and for the people." Governments cannot serve two masters. Today they serve the capitalist class because they are controlled by the capitalist class, and as long as the capitalist class is in power, the workers need expect but little sympathy from its governments. The most they can expect are minor concessions to keep them quiet.

Plainly, then, the workers must follow the example of their masters, organize into a party of their own, get control of the governing powers and use them for their own ends. Not until they do so will laws be passed and enforced in their interests.

That, my friend, is the reason why you should take some stock in politics. As long as you and your fellow workers are content to "leave politics alone," as long as you are stupid enough to intrust the law-making power, the courts, the army and the police to the enemies of your class, so long will you be duped, robbed and despised.

By getting into politics the workers have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

When, oh, when, will they realize it?

Canada.

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Trade Unions Growing

Since the Manufacturers' Association has placed a new president in the field and given him instructions to go ahead crushing labor unions, it is not amiss to give the names of a few organizations and their gains in membership during the period when the most opposition to organized labor developed.

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CARPENTERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL (I. R. B.

and J. of A.)—1st and 4th Tuesdays, 218

State St. Leonard Dorn, 2000 W. 24th

St. Carpenter, No. 188—1st and 4th

Mondays, 200 4th St. Otto Reicher,

127 State St.

W. W. U.—1st and 4th Fridays, Wisconsin

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State St.

CARPENTERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL (I. R. B.

and J. of A.)—1st and

JOS. LAUER CO.

National Avenue ... Corner First

READERS

of this paper should make it a practice to

PATRONIZE

at all times, when ever possible, our

ADVERTISERS

TRY THE HERALD CLASSIFIED "ADS"

WANTED

WANTED—To do addressing for societies, merchants, etc. Low prices, quick service. RAPID ADDRESSING CO., 344 Sixth St., Milwaukee.

WANTED—Orders for imitation typewritten letters; cannot be told from the original. CO-OPERATIVE PRINTERY, 344 Sixth St., Milwaukee.

WANTED—Orders for "Socialism Made Plain," fourth edition. This office.

WANTED—BRANCHES and other societies to purchase their Skaf and Schafskopf Score Cards bearing the union label, from us. Fifteen cents a dozen. CO-OPERATIVE PRINTERY, 344 Sixth St.

FOR SALE

RENTAL OF OFFICES, OR IN A ROOM, WITH THE UNION LABEL, SUITABLE FOR UNIONS, BRANCHES, ETC., 10¢ each, or two for 50¢. SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUB. CO., 344 Sixth St., Milwaukee.

WARRANTS ON THE TREASURER—For the use of Social Democratic Branches; 100 warrants in a book for 25¢. SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PUBLISHING CO., 344 Sixth St., Milwaukee.

BRANCHES—We can now furnish you with 100 Orders on Treasurer, bound with stub, only 50¢. CO-OPERATIVE PRINTERY, 344 Sixth St., Milwaukee.

BUSINESS COLLEGE

MILWAUKEE LEADING Business College—HOFFMANN'S—does the most successful business. It does not have to cut rates; it does not give excessive commissions and employ unscrupulous solicitors. It does not do business on credit. It is a business college here and people with daily cash it does not do a full set—break contracts. Gender reputation of others, etc. This is the college that has over 500 students—made from the leading business and professional men of Milwaukee. Third and State Sts.

If You Have Never Visited THE BIG GROCERY

and compared our prices and goods with those of other stores.

We Are Both Losers

This is especially true when speaking of COFFEES and TEAS. We are now selling

A Fancy Clean SANTOS 15¢ per
Coffe at 15¢ per
A Very Choice Santos Pe- 15¢ per
ter Coffe at 15¢ per

All our best grades of bulk 45¢ per
Teas for next week at 45¢ per

After years of careful study and experience to blending Coffees, we have been able to produce a blend of our own which is the best 20¢ lb. and which compares with coffee-souls coffee at 25¢ or 30¢. Try it and be convinced. We will gladly furnish you a free sample, upon request.

THE BIG GROCERY

PRITZLAFF & WINK
582 MITCHELL ST. 584

There Is a Knock In
Making

Ice Cream Soda

We Have the Knock
TRY OURS

Wenzel & Mueller Drug Co

Howell Avenue
and Clarence Street

Pere Marquette Line Steamers

SATURDAY EXCURSIONS

Ludington and Manistee \$1.50

Nature LEAVE DAILY AT 6 P.M.

Dock 68 West Water St. Telephone Grand 717

SAM R. MILLER'S LIVERY

Milwaukee Co. Organization

Address all communications to E. T. Melms, County Organizer, 344 Sixth St., Milwaukee.

At a meeting of the speakers' committee, Aug. 2, it was decided to assign the following subjects to the following speakers:

The Social Revolution—Daniel W. Hoan.

Socialism and the Child Labor Problem—E. H. Thomas.

Man or Dollar, Which?—Charles Weiley.

The Origin of the Family—F. W. Rehfeld.

The Duties of a Public Official—E. T. Melms.

Work and Wages—Thomas Feeley.

Socialism, What It Is and What It Seeks to Accomplish—John C. Kleist.

Why Workingmen Should Be Socialists—Robert Seidel.

The War of the Classes—Emil Seidel.

The Duties of Labor in the State Legislature—F. Brockhausen, St.

The Fulfillment of Democracy—Carl D. Thompson.

Socialism and the Home—Chas. V. Schmidt.

GERMAN SPEAKERS

Woman Under Socialism—Armin Loey.

The French Revolt—John Philipovsky.

Christianity and Socialism—Paul Wrensch.

Was Wollen die Socialisten?—Chas. Minkley.

Polish Speaker

Why Workingmen Should Be Socialists—A. F. Kowalsky.

HUNGARIAN SPEAKERS

The Aims and Objects of an Organization—Michael Politsik.

Woman Under Socialism—Armin Loey.

This means that it will be possible in Milwaukee county to have at least from 100 to 150 lectures, starting from the month of September until shortly before the opening of the spring campaign, 1910. The following branches have so far decided to go into the lecture course, as follows:

Fifth, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, West Side Young People's Socialist League, South Side Young People's Socialist League, and the Hungarian Branch.

We expect that several other organizations affiliated with the Social-Democratic party of Milwaukee county, will report to the Organization Department asking for lectures during the fall and winter months. Now the branches should make it their business to get people outside of the organization to attend these lectures, then the course will be a grand success.

All branches not having applied for lectures in this course as yet are kindly requested to do so without fail between now and September 1, 1909.

At any rate, this is an opportunity which the comrades of Milwaukee county should take advantage of.

A number of good things for the organization can be accomplished—first, that it will make it possible to educate some of our people within the organization; second, that it will make it possible for the branches to have something of interest at their meetings, so that their members will attend; and third, that it will make it possible for the organization to secure new material in the line of speakers, which is so necessary, especially during campaign time. I therefore advise all comrades and sympathizers of our organization to take this matter up and see to it that their organization is represented in the lecture course.

Yours for the cause,

Edmund T. Melms,
County Organizer.

Base ball tickets for the Social-Democratic League can be purchased at the following places. Tickets good for any Sunday during the season.

L. Meier, Muskego and Mitchell.

A. Koloff, 615 Pearl street.

F. Korsch, Ninth and Greenfield.

J. Voeght, opposite the Park.

Wm. Zastrow, 231 South Bay street.

A. Henmann, 271 Third street.

F. Kellermann, 687 Orchard street.

Buech & Baumele, Mason and East Water streets.

Fred Nimmer, 681 Hanover street.

Runge & Zainer, 1620 Vliet street.

W. Stroesser, 316 State street.

C. Klop, South Bay street and Kinnickinnic avenue.

E. Bunchkowsky, 507 Conway street.

H. Schmidt, Bow and Muskego.

C. Schmidt, care of South Side Tower Hall.

F. Heim, Eleventh and Forest Home.

F. Behling, 231 Howell avenue.

THE TIME

is fast approaching when you must again think of your winter's fuel supply. It's something you must have—you must buy from someone. Have you ordered yet?

Milwaukee County Campaign Deficit Fund

Seventy-five per cent of all money raised in Milwaukee by the Campaign Committee comes in small denominations, consequently it takes a large number of contributors to raise a few thousands. When you send in your contributions to help pay the debt of our last year's campaign, you can rest assured that your money is going to be spent in the interests of emancipating the working class. If the working class ever expects to become industrially free, it must itself strike the blow. But the Socialists strike blows only with literature which awakes the minds of the workers and then sets them a-thinking. To do this requires money. Will you therefore help us in getting enough funds to pay our last year's bills and keep the wheels of organization in motion? If so, send in your contribution to E. T. Melms, 344 Sixth street, County Organizer. Let us wipe out the debt. Five thousand dollars will do the work. Following are the contributions for last week:

Previously reported \$1,576.52

Jas. Sheehan 500

Henry Ries 100

Picnic Committee 117.8

Milwaukee Lodge, No. 1301, I. A. O. U. 100

Julius Randolph 50

W. H. Gladding 50

Paul Muller 25

Fred Binner 25

P. B. 25

L. Burkhardt 25

W. 25

C. H. G. 25

E. A. R. 25

C. W. Spaeth 25

Goodman Bros. 25

Carl Biersach 25

Geo. Mueller 25

Buech & Baumele 100

Louis Neher 100

F. C. Kunz 25

C. F. Dittman 25

Henry Zicklue 25

Wm. Arnold 25

David White 25

Herman Muller 25

Borchert Bros. 25

H. P. B. 25

W. F. D. 25

Louie Arnold 25

THE PLACE

to order your fuel is from the undersigned, H. W. Bistorius (at the Social-Democratic Herald office), who will turn over his agent's income from these sales to the benefit of the Social-Democratic press and party—and you will help the good cause without any extra cost to yourself.

THE COAL

will be furnished by the Mueller Fuel and Supply Co., and I, personally, will see to it that you get good coal and full weight. All orders will be delivered by union teamsters.

Send your orders by postal, or call at the office, 344 Sixth St. Office is open, Sunday mornings from 9 o'clock until noon. Or, if you wish, telephone your order—Grand 2394.

H. W. BISTORIUS

Clearing Sale of Men's Tan and Patent Oxfords

Values up to \$4.00 to go at

\$2.45

a pair. Don't miss this opportunity.

Comrades, do your shopping at the places of our advertisers, and them know why you buy there.

Greatest bargains of the season in Men's and Boys' Suits, Pants, Shirts, Hats, Underwear, Suspenders, etc. Season's Wind-Up Sale now on.

Your last chance to buy light-weight spring and summer merchandise at about half prices. See our windows for bargains

Branch Meetings Next Week.

SUNDAY Slovace Workingmen's Educational Club, 344 Sixth street. Finnish Branch, 382 Washington st.

MONDAY Tenth Ward Branch, Spangenberg's hall, corner Twelfth street and North.

TUESDAY South Side Women's Branch, Korsch's hall, 653 Greenfield avenue.

WEDNESDAY Town of Lake Branch, No. 2, Oklahoma and Chicago avenues.

THURSDAY.

The Croatian Workingmen's Educational and Political Society, 164 Reed street.

Layton Park Branch, 687 Twenty-eighth avenue.

Fifth Ward Branch, 382 Washington street.

Ninth Ward Branch, 467 Eleventh street.

Eighteenth Ward Branch, 490 Cramer street.

S.D. Coming Nation Club, Oklahoma and Chicago avenues.

FRIDAY

Infant Labor at La Crosse

La Crosse, Wis.: Down on the banks of the old Father of Waters, in a mesh of switch tracks, stands the La Crosse Can Company, the greatest monument to the hellish degeneracy of profit-making I have ever seen in over twenty years of travel in the United States and Canada.

This company is engaged principally in making lard and other cans and, like others of dubious ways, succeeds best when it is let alone and can work in the dark.

Most of the work is done by little boys and girls and the first requirement to obtain service with this company is to sign or have your guardian sign a release from all damages to the company by suit against it in case of injury to the children. This release has been dubbed a "death warrant" by those who have gone up against it, and it readily accounts for the utter disregard for life and limb in factories where it is resorted to.

These little boys and girls are employed to do men's work and take all the risks of the dangerous machinery in their own hands at an average wage of about 2 cents per day, and it is almost a daily occurrence for a child to lose from one finger to a hand in this treacherous machinery.

The only time the little victims ever get a ride is when they are maimed badly and are whisked quickly to a doctor, but, I am informed, for ordinary little cases, such as the loss of a finger, the daily papers of La Crosse, who are keen after all other news of injury, do not publish more about the can company's accidents. The little workers are certainly in need of the aid of publicity because of their helplessness in their youth and lack of knowledge of the dangers they are surrounded with, and the further fact that many are from foreign parents, who do not realize the hazard of the occupation. I wish to say in closing, that the daily papers of La Crosse are fully aware of the conditions set forth here, and I would like to know what influence keeps them from publishing these facts and others that are news and are what the public are buying their papers for to keep informed on.

Last week I wrote of the little "come across" game of the Retail Grocers' Association in connection with their endeavor to force the public to use non-union flour, and I had hoped to send you this week some sworn testimony taken under the discovery law in a case this spring, but the limited time forces me to wait a week or so, which I will promise you in part then, provided the secretary of the Grocers' Association does not "get me," as he has threatened, in the meantime.

I wish to ask if any readers of this publication have ever placed any collections or done any business with the Merchants' Law & Adjustment Company of La Crosse, Wis., and what their experience has been. I wish to especially ask parties at Eau Claire and surrounding towns.

Going a little further into the association, I wish to state that one of the items of interest in connection with this organization is the Taggart Credit Book, a rating book

used, apparently, to evade the blacklist law. This book gives the names of heads of households in this city and rates them according to their paying abilities, the ratings being given by their key—"A," good; "B," fairly good; "C," doubtful; and "D," for "get your money."

Two leading lawyers here, who have gone over the evidence, have informed me that these methods should be looked into by the attorney-general.

State Secretary's Financial Report for July

RECEIPTS.

Dues for Milwaukee County—
11 of Milwaukee..... \$ 9.00
2 of Milwaukee..... 18.00
1 of West Allis..... 3.00
3, 4 and 7 of Milwaukee..... 3.00
Jewish Branch of Milwaukee..... 3.00
1 of Milwaukee..... 3.00
23 of Milwaukee..... 3.00
20 of Milwaukee..... 9.00
17 of Milwaukee..... 30.00
22 of Milwaukee..... 23.85
12 of Milwaukee..... 22.95
16 of Milwaukee..... 3.00
13 of Milwaukee..... 9.00
6 of Milwaukee..... 9.00
1 of Winona..... 1.35

\$150.15

Dues from State—
1 of Glidden..... \$ 3.45
Polish Branch of Kenosha..... 2.00
German Branch of Kenosha..... 6.00
1 of Milltown..... 3.00
Members-at-large..... 4.20
Bohemian Branch of Kenosha..... 6.15
1 of New Holstein..... 3.00
1 of Green Bay..... 3.00
1 of Abbotsford..... 1.20
German Branch of Kenosha..... 6.00
1 of Hartland..... 3.75
1 of Madison..... 3.00
1 of Sturgeon Bay..... 3.00
1 of Mountain..... 5.40
1 of Washburn..... 4.95
1 of Sheboygan..... 12.00
1 of Wausau..... 3.00
1 of Brodhead..... .90
1 of Sheboygan Falls..... 4.95
1 of Beloit..... 2.25
Finnish Branch of Clifford..... 2.00

\$75

Finnish Branch of Allonez Bag..... 1.00

1.05

Finnish Branch of Oulu..... 3.00

5.00

Finnish Branch of Racine..... 3.00

5.00

Finnish Branch of Superior..... 5.00

\$3.35

Organization and Extension Fund—
W. S. Walkup..... \$0.00

1.10

W. P. Cunningham..... 1.10

.50

H. Dennis..... 7.5

\$3.35

Dues of Milwaukee County..... \$150.15

93.40

Organization and Ex. Fund..... 3.35

49.95

Mills Lectures..... 28.65

1.50

1 of Wausau, printing..... 25

S. D. Publishing Co., long

distance service..... 3.00

J. E. Nash, hangers..... 2.56

County Central Committee, electric light..... 1.5

15 of Milwaukee, delinquency notices..... 1.15

C. B. Whitnall, treasurer..... 133.31

\$46.27

Balance forwarded from
June..... 42.11

\$508.38

EXPENDITURES.

National dues..... \$105.00

S. D. Pub. Co., on printing 40.00

Telegram..... 1.03

Long distance telephone..... 2.70

Books..... .25

S. D. Pub. Co., addressing envelopes..... .64

Riverside Printing Co..... 25.00

Cream City Bill Posting Co..... 75.00

Express on posters..... .50

Toward Encyclopedia..... 5.00

Postage..... 16.40

W. A. Jacobs..... 15.31

Stenographer's salary..... 48.00

Cleaning office..... 1.50

Electric lighting..... 5.12

Mills Lectures..... .50

C. B. Whitnall treasurer..... 133.00

\$474.83

Cash on hand July 31..... 33.55

\$508.38

E. H. Thomas,
State Secretary.

Buy union label goods. Patronize union clerks. Ask for clerks' union store card.

For tools of all kinds

Ask your hardware dealer for circular, or write

THOS. A. PANYARD, 514 Grand Avenue

Our tools are corrosion-proof, weight 12.7 lbs. packed 1 lb. a box; weight 18 lbs.

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Torture at Green Bay Reformatory

Methods of Correction That Are a Disgrace to Civilization and Should Be Abolished

If the State Board of Control has definitely reported on its recent investigation of the State Reformatory at Green Bay, we have not at this writing seen it, but when it does come we expect to see a whitewash. The investigation did not look just right—such investigations, made with announcements ahead, usually amount to little. They can be prepared for.

One feature of the hearing that struck us was the claim put out by some of the guards that the charges were trumped up by concerted action of some of the inmates to procure the retirement of a certain guard who had incurred the inmates' ill will.

As tending to show the improbability of such a story, as well as to give an inside view of the workings of the torture system in vogue at Green Bay, the same as at most other "reformatories" and prisons, we append herewith a written statement made some months ago by a Milwaukee boy who served his time at the institution. It has not been changed since written, although it only now gets into type, and was written long enough prior to the recent charges and investigation to have no connection whatever with any alleged conspiracy hatched up among the present inmates to discredit some unpopular guard. It reads as follows, the full name of the writer being in our possession, but withheld for obvious reasons:

"A young offender against the law in the state of Wisconsin, for certain crimes, sometimes is sent to the state reformatory at Green Bay. He is sent there with the claim that it is for the purpose of reforming him, but the system upon which the state reformatory is conducted will never reform anybody.

"When a young man is sentenced to the state reformatory he doubtless thinks that when he has been under its influence to the end of his term that he will walk forth a good and honorable citizen and that he will be free to start life anew. It is the sad truth that his wishes and expectations are not realized.

"On entering the institution he is searched and everything taken away from him except his handkerchief. He is hurried in to a bathroom and given a bath; then a close hair-cut, and a change of clothes—that is, he is given the prison criminal garb. This consists of a pair of gray trousers and a gray coat, also cap, shirt, collar, suspenders and socks.

"Thus attired, he is taken to a receiving cell and given one day's rest, from which he is awakened in the morning and led to breakfast. The breakfast usually consists of pork sausage—not fit for animals, as a rule—stale bread, and syrup.

Works in the Shop

"Breakfast over, he is taken to the factories and set to work; in the majority of cases the assignment is to the overall department. He is given a machine, and a fellow prisoner shows him how to operate it, and given thirty days in which to become familiar with the work. After that he is required to make

his task, which is about thirty-eight overalls a day. If he fails to make his task he is first warned and reprimanded, and then if he still fails is given a report and sent to the office of the superintendent. The superintendent gives him a lecture and if he is sent back to the factory he is put back to work after the guard has also talked to him, and given another week.

"If, during this second week of trial, he is caught whispering, talking or laughing, he is given another report and sent to the office. This time he is punished severely; he is taken to the cell house and placed in a cell. A pair of handcuffs are brought and placed on his wrists and his hands are crossed high up over his head, as high as he can reach, and he is left standing in that straining position, that grows more painful every moment. The cell door is not only locked, but a blind door is placed over the cell door. He is left in that predicament for about fifteen hours every day that he stays in the cell—the time being determined by his willingness of promise to obey the rules and make the allotted task.

The Torture Cell

"At night, when he is taken down from the cuffs, he is not allowed a bed to sleep on, but two blankets are thrown in on the floor and he makes a bed on the cement floor and tries to rest his aching joints and bruised muscles or to forget them in the sleep of exhaustion. No meals are brought him. Only water. No fight is furnished.

"During all the time he remains in the torture cell he is not allowed to see a doctor. Frequently the boy is so weak after the hand-cuffing punishment that when he promises to make his task and is put back to work he is too weak and too nervous, perhaps, to perform his task and he falls down.

"What happens then? Why, the probability is that the guard walks over to his machine, throws him off his chair, kicks him about the floor as a warning to the others, and if the prisoner tries to defend himself by giving battle he is set upon and beaten so that he is either taken to the hospital or rushed back to the cell house and hung up with the handcuffs again for four or five days.

"There are always four or five prisoners in solitary confinement, and even more than that number. "There is also a school in connection with the institution, where the prisoners attend two hours each afternoon. They have six rooms in the building and they range as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

"On entering the institution, each prisoner is asked how long he has attended school. If he has no schooling he is placed in room No. 1. If he has had some schooling and can read and write he is placed

"And such treatment as the prisoners receive in the Wisconsin State Reformatory at Green Bay, Wis., should be looked into by the people of the state."

Poor Food

"When sick at the reformatory prisoners must work until the physician comes. Sometimes the prisoners are too sick to turn out their work, but it is still required of them. There are also many consumptives among the prisoners, but they are not treated as sick at all, and also eat at the same tables in the dining hall with the others. The meals are not very good, I must say. A meal consists of stale bread, beans, malt coffee, old beef, and other things that are not fit for a person to eat.

"At meal times the prisoners are not allowed to communicate with each other, and if anyone is caught talking at the table by a guard he is ordered away from the table and stood up face to the wall until all the rest are through with their meal.

"When the Board of Control visits the place the prisoners have good meals placed before them and receive good treatment. But as soon as they leave it is the same old treatment over again.

"And such treatment as the prisoners receive in the Wisconsin State Reformatory at Green Bay, Wis., should be looked into by the people of the state."

Town Topics by the Town Crier

Is Rose's booming of the Planckton residence for an historical museum an adroit slap at the Metropolitan Park Commission and its civic center plans? The historical museum should be within the tract proposed for the assembling of all the ornate public buildings, and should be near the Library and Museum, at least.

The ghost of the poor old Milwaukee Southern Railroad has bobbed up again in court and reminds one of the days when a smooth and genteel promoter named Wood had the wise and

hard-headed business men of the town hypnotized for a while. But the financial world seems to have had more sense, and the franchise that Wood received to hawk about among millionaire investors was too transparent to deceive anyone.

The pleasant sight may be seen in Chicago of large sprinkling wagons set on ear trucks and operated by trolley for the purpose of keeping down the dust on the car tracks. It saves the people a good many mouthfuls of dust when the cars whiz by with the usual suction of air under them. Of course

such a thing as this is too much of a luxury for poor Milwaukee, where the sprinkling suit against Beggs has been rotting in the courts for three or four years.

The Merchants and Manufacturers are opposed to the site chosen for the new house of correction. One reason given is that the stone in the quarry on the site is of inferior quality. This is exactly contrary to the reports that have come in about it, it being claimed by contractors that the stone is unusually hard and when used on streets will outlast all the other crushed stone on the market. As usual, probably, the M. and M. simply signed a thing they knew nothing about and that some member worked its ignorance.

"In school they also have examinations and each pupil's standing cannot be below 75 per cent. If it falls below that average he is fined \$2 or thereabouts. The second time the fine is \$3, and the fourth time the prisoners get put back in the cell house, on the straps, and a new garb is put on him of white and black stripes, and he must wear it some two or three months. If, after that he fails to behave, he is transferred to Waukesha to the state penitentiary, for the remainder of his term.

"When the prisoner at Green Bay is at work in the factory he is required to earn 70 cents every day for the state, of which 52 cents is deducted for board, 15 cents for laundry, and 13 cents set over to the prisoner's credit, and each month a certain sum of this is deducted for writing materials and fines, and for clothes and so forth.

"On leaving the reformatory each prisoner is required to buy all his clothes from head to foot, which amounts to about \$10 in all. He is then taken to the railway station, put on a train, and given all his money that remains after paying all his bills, which amounts to about \$15.

Poor Food

"When sick at the reformatory prisoners must work until the physician comes. Sometimes the prisoners are too sick to turn out their work, but it is still required of them. There are also many consumptives among the prisoners, but they are not treated as sick at all, and also eat at the same tables in the dining hall with the others. The meals are not very good, I must say. A meal consists of stale bread, beans, malt coffee, old beef, and other things that are not fit for a person to eat.

"At meal times the prisoners are not allowed to communicate with each other, and if anyone is caught talking at the table by a guard he is ordered away from the table and stood up face to the wall until all the rest are through with their meal.

Contrasted with Mr. Beggs is another magnate, Mr. Frost of the Chicago-Milwaukee electric line. Frost may have many of the faults of the street railway magnate, but one thing he must be given credit for: He builds solidly and puts on cars that will even compare favorably with those used by the steam roads, built of walnut and hardwoods and appointed in the latest style.

Frost's cars will last where Beggs' flimsy, shoddy equipment will go to pieces and become frail and dirty in a short time.

But let us possess ourselves in peace and wait. Perhaps the leopard is about to change his spots!

Oath—Admission to the Bar

Following is the new oath to be taken by lawyers in Wisconsin:

Chapter 179, Laws of 1909, requires that each person admitted to practice as a member of the bar of any court of this state shall subscribe to the roll of attorneys to be kept by the clerk and to take in open court an oath or affirmation of the tenor following, to wit:

I do solemnly swear:

I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Wisconsin.

I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers.

I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall appear to me to be unjust, or any defense, except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land.

I will employ, for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me, such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of fact or law.

I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client and will accept no compensation in connection with his business except from him or with his knowledge and approval.

I will abstain from all offensive personality and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged.

I will never reject from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay any man's cause for lucre or malice. So help me God.

If you are looking for printing of the better sort—the kind that attracts attention and brings business, you will ask us to give you figures. We strive to please. The Co-operative Printery, 344 Sixth Street, Milwaukee.

Comrades, do you shopping at the places of our advertisers, and let them know why you buy there.

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